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# PHRASAL VERBS IN INTERNET NEWS

# Bakalářská práce

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I declare that I have worked on this thesis independently, using only the primary and secondary sources listed in the bibliography.

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Author's signature

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### INTRODUCTION

Internet news have partly replaced regular newspapers in the last decades. Many people use the Internet for work and for studying. With the help of smart phones and tablet computers the access to the Internet is much easier than it was ten years ago. Its advantage could be online reporting about political, economic and other affairs.

My bachelor thesis deals with phrasal verbs found in Internet news. Its aim is to describe phrasal verbs in general, to give examples of phrasal verbs and then to provide comparison of the usage of phrasal verbs in tabloid and broadsheet Internet articles. I decided to write my work on this theme because I am an English-course teacher to adult students and I found this topic useful for my own studying and better understanding of the English grammar.

The thesis consists of four chapters and it is divided into a theoretical and a practical part. The used bibliography and online sources are listed at the end of this work.

The theoretical part of my work describes a categorization of verbs. I focus on the phrasal verbs, their structure and their origin. For analysis found in the practical part, articles from Internet websites are used.

The practical part deals with a comparative analysis of different phrasal verbs used in tabloid and broadsheet articles. The corpus of the practical part consists of twenty-one Internet articles. The articles were randomly chosen between 1<sup>st</sup> December till 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 from well-known websites such as The Telegraph, The Guardian, The Sun, The Daily Mail, The Mirror and The Daily Star. There is an overview of the usage of phrasal verbs found in ten broadsheet articles and in eleven tabloid articles.

The conclusion summarizes the theoretical information about phrasal verbs and presents achieved results of the analysis.

## **1 PHRASAL VERBS**

The first chapter of the theoretical part deals with basic description of phrasal verbs. Two types of grammar books are used for the defining and explaining of phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs will be described through ideas of theoretical grammar books, later on the description will be based on practical books of grammar.

## 1.1 Basic information about verbs

A verb is defined by the Oxford Dictionary (2000) as "a word or group of words that expresses an action, an event or a state". It is a base of each sentence. Verbs can be divided according to semantic and syntactic characteristics. This division of verbs describes some morphological characteristics and it is set according to Greenbaum (1985).

Verbs change their form through conjugation which is important to distinguish tense, mood, voice and aspect. The initial form of the verb is infinitive, usually recognised by the particle *to*. There exist three basic tenses of English: past, present and future. The past tense describes the action that has already happened in past time, regular verbs are added -d or -ed to their initial form, while irregular verbs have either the same form of the verb or the form is changed for the past simple and the past participle (*e.g.: put, put, put; write, wrote, written*). The present tense formulates situations that happen in the present time. Most of verbs have the same form in the present tense as in infinitive. The exception could be the verb *to be (am, is, are)*. In the present, there is also difference in the third person of singular form which adds -s or -es to the initial form of the verb. The future tense represents the situation that should happen in the future time. English does not have an inflected form of verbs for the future tense, but it has many ways to express it. The frequently used is the auxiliary

verb *will* in connection with the base form of the verb (*e.g.: The sun <u>will rise</u> at half past five.*).

Modality expresses the attitude of speaker by verb usage in order to expose permission, request, prohibition, probability and necessity. Modal verbs are for example can, could, will, would, must, may, etc. (*e.g.: I <u>can</u> speak Russian.*)

The voice differentiates two types: active and passive. In active voice the subject is initiator of the action, while in passive voice the object of active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. In English the passive voice is created with the auxiliary verb with past participle. (*e.g.: Many plays (S) were written (V) by William Shakespeare (O).*)

This part includes some syntactic classification. For example verbs can be divided into transitive and non-transitive verbs. Non-transitive (also called intransitive) verbs do not need any object, on the contrary transitive verbs need one or two objects to be connected to the verb in the sentence. (*e.g.: She (S) stole (V) him (IO) a book (DO).*)

Very important in English sentences are linking verbs. These types of verbs connect the subject to some complement. Various forms of the verb *to be* and verbs of perception are mainly used. (*e.g.: The snow is white.*)

A category of special verbs that behave and look like a phrase is called the phrasal verbs. A phrasal verb consists of a base verb which is followed by a particle. The particle can be represented by an adverb or a preposition. A frequent problem is that understanding of the meaning of phrasal verbs can be confused to the meaning of the verb just followed by the preposition. Many multiword verbs have two or more meanings. The following chapters explain the origin and the grammar of the phrasal verbs.

## 1.2 Origin of phrasal verbs

A phrasal verb is described by Longman Phrasal Verbs Dictionary (2000) as "a verb that consists of two or more words. Most phrasal verbs consist of two words - the first word is a verb and the second word is a particle. The particle is either an adverb or a preposition." According to Lamont (2005), "a phrasal verb in Present-Day English is a verb that takes a complementary particle, in other words, an adverb resembling a preposition, necessary to complete a sentence." In Old English phrasal verbs did not have the same appearance as nowadays, there was a form of inseparable-prefix verbs (a particle was linked with the beginning of a verb) for example "forbærnan" which means to burn up (Lamont, 2005).

The term phrasal verb was used for the first time by Logan Pearsall Smith in his work called Words and Idioms (1925). He claims that Henry Bradley proposed him this term. (About Education, 2016). It could be also called a compound verb, a verb phrase, a multi-word verb, a prepositional verb or a particle verb. Phrasal verbs are typically idiomatic. Their meaning cannot be understood by adding two individual meanings of words together. For example *to check out* means "*to get more information about something; to make sure that the information is true or not; to return room keys and pay bill at hotel so you can leave*" (Longman Dictionary, 2000, p. 72), while separately the verb *to check* means "*to examine sth. to see if it is correct, safe or satisfactory; to control sth.; to stop sth. of getting worse*" and a word *out* means "*away from the inside, from the place*" (Oxford Dictionary, 2000, p. 199, 898). Phrasal verbs are important to learn because they are frequently used in spoken English and in less formal texts. They are found in entertainment sphere in newspapers and newspapers headlines e.g.: "Mum marries husband on his deathbed just *four days before he passes away.*" (The Sun, 2015), in film and music such as *Get Up*,

*Stand Up by Bob Marley.* They are considered to be difficult to study for foreign learners (Parrott, 2010) due to their use in everyday conversation of native speakers.

## **1.3 Grammatical features of phrasal verbs**

The grammar and different types of categorisation of phrasal verbs according to authors mentioned in this chapter are described.

Greenbaum & Quirk (1991) present multi-word verbs as lexical verbs followed by the particle, the adverb or the preposition (*e.g.: to drink up, to burn with*). The category of lexical verbs is further divided into prepositional verbs, phrasal verbs and phrasal-prepositional verbs.

1. Prepositional verbs contain a lexical verb that is followed by a preposition (of, with) which is structurally or semantically related to it. The noun phrase that comes after the preposition is called prepositional object. This object should stand behind the particle. When the object is represented by a pronoun, it must follow the particle. Prepositional verbs can sometimes work as ditransitive verbs. A ditransitive verb is a verb that takes two objects, one of them is called direct and the other one is indirect. To recognize an indirect object in a sentence we can ask a question "To whom?" or "For what is the action of the verb done?" and for direct object we ask "Who?" or "What does receive an action?" We can separate the prepositional verb by putting in an indirect object between the verb and the preposition (Greenbaum & Quirk, 1991).

e.g.: They *thanked* us *for* the invitation to our birthday party.

Special case is transformation of active voice to passive, during which the direct object becomes the subject and vice versa.

e.g.: She broke down her leg (DO). Active voice

#### Her leg (S) was broken down. Passive voice

- 2. Phrasal verbs comprise of a lexical verb and a particle represented by an adverb (*e.g.: up, out, in, back*). The particle can stand before or after the direct object. If the object is represented by a pronoun, it must precede the particle.
- 3. Phrasal-prepositional verbs are verbs with two particles an adverb followed by a preposition (*e.g.: to get on with, to put up with*). They have either one or two objects, it depends on the transitivity of the verb.

Another division of multi-word verbs explained by Greenbaum & Quirk depends on the necessity of usage of objects in a sentence. It was mentioned that there exist some ditransitive verbs (they take two objects). Initially, verbs are divided on intransitive and transitive.

a) Intransitive verbs combine the verb with the adverb and they are not followed by any direct object.

e.g.: That chair was broken down.

He <u>turn up</u> at the Martin's birthday party.

*b)* Transitive verbs are verb followed by the particle and take a direct object. The direct object could be a noun, a pronoun, a phrase and a clause.

e.g.: They pick up strawberries (DO).

Some verbs could be both intransitive and transitive (*e.g.: to blow up, to give up*). It is important to realize that these verbs have usually different meaning when used with the direct object or not. They respect certain rules: the particle can come before or after the direct object; when the direct object is a personal pronoun, it follows the verb immediately and precedes the particle; when the direct object is long, it follows the particle of the phrasal verb.

e.g.: Can you look after my children?

#### Can you look my children after? Incorrect.

Parrott (2010) deals with multiword verbs that are defined as a combination of a verb and one or more particles. The adverbs and the prepositions are used as particles (*e.g.: on, out, away, back*). When prepositions are not followed by a noun phrase or by gerund form, they function in phrasal verbs as adverbs (Dictionary Cambridge, 2016).

Some verbs can be combined with different particles to have different meanings (*e.g.: to check in, to check on, to check out, to check off*). Other verbs combine only with one particle and have one meaning for example: *to arrive at – to make a decision or agreement about sth.* (Longman Dictionary, 2000, p.7) According to Parrott, there exist four categories of multiword verbs.

1. Intransitive verbs – they do not have a direct object.

e.g.: I <u>wake up</u> at 5 o'clock. <u>Get in</u> the car.

2. Transitive inseparable verbs – they have a direct object that cannot stand between the verb and the particle.

e.g.: Helen has to <u>take care of</u> her younger sister, while their parents are not at home.

 Transitive separable verbs – they have a direct object but it can stand between the verb and the particle. It can also follow the particle unless the object is a pronoun. In this case, it must stand between the verb and the particle.

> e.g.: I have to <u>take it back</u>, I made an unforgivable mistake. This questionnaire is very important to be handed in time, so please <u>fill it in</u> now.

4. Transitive verbs with two particles – the particles are inseparable, they are represented by an adverb and a preposition.

e.g.: John faces up to a very difficult situation.

I cannot <u>catch up with</u> them, they are too fast.

These four types of multiword verbs are sometimes called as phrasal and prepositional verbs according to their particles (adverbs, prepositions). In these types the first and second category resembles the phrasal verbs with adverbs as their particles. The third category of verbs is known as prepositional verbs with prepositions as their particles and the fourth category represents phrasal-prepositional verbs where the adverb is followed by the preposition.

Parrott agrees with Greenbaum & Quirk that sometimes there is an object standing between the verb and the particle. In some cases we can use only a word *it* as the object.

#### e.g.: We worked so hard to finish the project, and now we have made it up.

This example shows that some sentences can end with a particle. Parrott explains that the difference between multiword verbs and other verbs that are followed by a preposition or an adverb is that when multiword verbs join together a verb and a particle, it forms one certain meaning.

e.g.: He looked up at the sky.

Jane, <u>look up</u> the meaning of new words from Unit 6 in the dictionary.

According to Gairns & Redman (2011), a phrasal verb is constructed usually by two, sometimes by three words. One of them is a base verb that is connected to one particle at least. The particle could be a preposition or an adverb. Phrasal verbs are described as idiomatic, which means that a meaning of the verb together with the particle is different from the meaning of the base verb itself (Gairns & Redman, 2011). They claim that some phrasal verbs are more transparent, the meaning of the phrasal verb is so close to the meaning of the base verb. Typical examples are the verbs *to sit x to sit down, to stand x to stand up*.

Murphy (2004) argues that verbs with the words *in, on, out, off, up, down, away, back, round, through, about, along, over, forward and by* are called phrasal verbs. Some phrasal verbs take a direct object in a sentence. In case of usage of objects we usually consider two possibilities of their placement in a sentence. The object stands either after the phrasal verb, or before the preposition. If the object is represented by a pronoun, it always stands before the preposition.

I <u>turn on</u> the radio.	Could you <u>take off</u> your coat?
I <u>turn</u> the radio <u>on</u> .	Could you <i>take</i> your coat off?
I <u>turn</u> it <u>on</u> .	Could you <u>take</u> it <u>off</u> ?

Similarly to Murphy, McCarthy & O'Dell (2004) present phrasal verbs as verbs that include some particle (a preposition or an adverb). McCarthy & O'Dell specify important grammar patterns which are mentioned in the table below. They say that the initial meaning of the verb describes a particular action, while when the verb is a part of phrasal verb, the meaning is abstract.

Table 1: Grammar	pattern	of phrasal	verbs
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Verb has non-human object.	to sketch in sth. / to sketch sth. in
Verb has human object.	to join with sb.
Verb has either non-human or human object.	to order in sth. / sb.
The object comes after a particle.	to refer to sb. / sth.
The object comes before a particle.	to get sb. / sth. back

The object comes either after or before a particle.	to give out sth. / to give sth. out

Although the phrasal verbs are used mainly in spoken and in informal language, there exist one-word verbs that are synonymous to phrasal verbs and that can substitute phrasal verbs in the formal language. Typical example is: *to put off meeting* means *to postpone meeting*. A number of phrasal nouns (*passer-by, outcome, and overview*) and adjectives (*ongoing, broken-down*) is found in English language. Formation of nouns follows these rule:

verb + particle:

- to form plural form with adding –s to the particle, not to the verb *e.g.: break-ins*
- phrasal nouns can use a hyphen or not
  - e.g.: check-in, checkout

particle + verb:

• sometimes the noun form of the phrasal verb begins with the particle *e.g.: input* 

Yule (2006) calls the combination of the verb and the particle as two-word verbs or phrasal verbs, too. In accordance with Murphy, he divides two-word into two groups. The first group contains verbs that do not need any object. The second group includes verbs that need the object and rules where the object is found are described. When the object is a noun phrase, it does not matter whether it stands before or after the particle. But when the object is a pronoun, it should stand before the particle. There are three similar sentences where the position of the object is explained.

Don't wake up the baby.Object stands behind the particle up.Don't wake the baby up.Object stand behind the verb but before the particle

*Don't <u>wake him up.</u>* Object is a pronoun him and stand before the particle In some cases phrasal verbs are used with prepositions. Yule calls the combination of a verb plus a particle and a preposition three-word verbs. The difference between two-word verbs and three-word verbs is that when a pronoun is used in threeword verbs, it stands after the preposition. Yule similarly to McCarthy & O'Dell mentions that phrasal verbs are commonly used in informal language.

Hewing (1999) agrees on the definition of phrasal verbs with Yule. He says that verbs used with particles (prepositions or adverbs) are called two-word verbs. Verbs that are used with both particles at the same time are called three-word verbs. These verbs are sometimes named phrasal verbs or prepositional verbs. The reason why we should learn them is that it is difficult to understand their meaning which often differs from the meaning of the base verb on its own. Hewing states four grammar rules of how phrasal verbs are constructed.

- verb + particle + noun phrase:
  - verb + preposition noun phrase stands after the particle
  - verb + adverb noun phrase goes after the particle unless the particle is a pronoun
  - o *e.g.*: *The crash of a car and a bus ended in a horrible disaster.*
- verb + noun phrase + particle:
  - verb + adverb noun phrase stands behind the verb but before the particle
  - o e.g.: Please sign yourselves in the guest book.
- verb + particle + noun phrase
  - o if the noun phrase is long it cannot stay before the particle

- e.g.: John and Mary were picking up strawberries and blackberries in the forest.
- verb + adverb + preposition + noun phrase
  - o noun phrase usually goes after the preposition
  - o e.g.: I have to move away from the smoking habit.

To summarize, in English grammar there exist many ideas on how to define and classify phrasal verbs. Sometimes phrasal verbs are called multiword verbs, or twoword (three-word) verbs. Sometimes there is a special division into phrasal and prepositional verbs. These words are constructed from a single verb to which a particle is joined. The particle could be an adverb and / or a preposition. The meaning of the phrasal verb is more idiomatic than literal. It is not sufficient to understand separate meaning of the base verb and of the particle on its own. Another division is dependent on transitivity of verbs. Those verbs that need one or more objects are called transitive, while verbs that do not need any object are intransitive. Some of them are both, transitive and intransitive, but their meaning could be different. Some verbs take two objects, one follows the verb and the other one follows the particle. (e.g.: I usually associate that film with our honeymoon.) Transitive verbs can be further divided into separable (an object can be inserted between a verb and a particle) and inseparable. The position of particle varies according to some rules. It could come before or after the object. Longer objects are usually placed after the particle and when the object is a personal pronoun, the pronoun is placed before the particle. In case of three-word verbs, the object comes at the end. (e.g.: I look forward to seeing you.) As mentioned above we distinguish two types of particles: prepositions and adverbs. The main difference between prepositions and adverbs is that prepositions usually modify noun or noun phrase while adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, clauses and sentences. In the following

list there are commonly used particles mentioned together with their different meanings. Their meanings are found in Oxford Dictionary (2000).

#### ABOUT

- 1. A little more or less than
- 2. Nearly, very close
- 3. In many directions
- 4. In no particular order

#### AROUND

- On every side, surrounding something
- 2. Moving in the circle
- 3. Measured in a circle
- 4. In or to many places
- 5. To describe activities that have no real purpose
- 6. Present in place, available

#### AWAY

- 1. At a distance from something
- 2. To a different place or direction
- 3. Not present
- 4. Used after verbs to say that sth is done continuously

#### DOWN

- 1. To a lower place, level
- From a standing position to a sitting one
- 3. To show that the amount of sth is lower
- 4. Reading from top to bottom
- 5. In the south of a country

#### FORWARD

- 1. Toward a place that is in front
- 2. Towards a good result, future
- 3. Earlier, sooner

#### IN

- 1. At a point within an area
- 2. Within a shape of sth
- 3. Into sth
- 4. Forming the whole or part of sth
- 5. Involved in

#### OFF

- 1. Away from a place
- 2. To say that sth has been removed
- 3. Starting a race
- 4. No longer going to happen
- Not connected, šěnot functioning

#### ON

- 1. In a position covering and touching part of surface
- 2. Supported by sth
- 3. To show means of transport
- 4. To show date or day
- 5. About sth

#### OUT

- 1. Away from the inside of the place
- 2. Not at home
- To show that sth is removed from a place
- To show that sb has does not have any of it
- 5. To show that sb is not involved in sth

#### OVER

- Outwards from an upright position
- 2. From one side to another
- 3. Across a street
- 4. To cover sth completely
- 5. Above or more

#### THROUGH

- 1. From one end to another
- 2. To see sth from other side
- From the beginning to the end of the activity
- 4. Past a barrier

UP

- 1. Towards a higher position, level
- 2. To an important place
- 3. To a northern place of a country
- 4. Completely
- 5. Finished over

## **2** INTERNET NEWS

This chapter provides basic information about the Internet as a medium of mass communication. The main part of this chapter describes what newspapers are, what their types are, how they differ in visual and contextual styles and whether there exist a difference between printed and virtual form of newspapers.

## 2.1 Origin and history of the Internet

The history of the Internet is connected to the development of computers and computer networks, which is dated roughly after the end of the Second World War. The aim of the Internet was to interconnect distant computers, which could enable the transport of the information between these computers. The year 1991 is very important because the application WWW (World Wide Web) started to work. Through this application the Internet is available to common users. With the rising demand, in the 90s of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the Internet has affected the culture and the market. It was highly commercialized.

The Internet is the global system of interconnected computer networks that use the Internet protocol (TCP/IP) to link billions of devices worldwide. It is a network of networks that consists of millions of private, public, academic, business, and government networks of local to global scope, linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless, and optical networking technologies. The Internet carries an extensive range of information resources and services, such as the inter-linked hypertext documents and applications of the World Wide Web (WWW), electronic mail, telephony, and peer-to-peer networks for file sharing. (Wikipedia, 2016)

The Internet is the biggest easily accessible source of getting and sharing information all over the world. Big advantage is that it enables written, audio and video communication between users and it also provides many forms of entertainment. This medium of communication is very interactive, it has expanded into many countries and it is up-to-date. This is the reason why online news are very popular. Internet users have a wide range of different topics that are concerned with national and international events, economy, medicine, traffic, weather, technology, sport and others. It is believed that the Internet news are commonly used mainly be people aged less than 60. Nowadays young people prefer rather Internet news to printed newspapers because they have many possibilities to be online for example through mobile phones, notebooks and tablets. On the contrary, older people still prefer printed version of newspapers to that online (The San Diego Union-Tribune, 2016). This is the reason why many companies producing newspapers publish news in both versions, the printed and the online one.

## 2.2 Broadsheet and tabloid newspapers

The first reference of printed newspapers appeared in the 17<sup>th</sup> century which was preceded of course by the invention of typography by Johann Gutenberg in the middle of 15<sup>th</sup> century (Mediagram, 2016). Contemporary form of newspapers is considered to be a periodically published list (daily or weekly) that informs us about political and technological events, finance and business, crime, science, medicine, sports and entertainment. Newspapers usually contain some advertisement. They are printed in a large format on newsprint. They are sold primarily in newsstands and tobacco shops and also in big supermarkets and shopping centres.

The graphical form of typical newspapers contains a number of sections and columns. Each section deals with particular theme. These sections are published regularly in every edition or they are published as a special supplement (e.g.: education system, consultancy on tax returns, law reforms, product reviews, etc.). Nowadays it is usual to find a TV programme inserted inside the newspapers. Depending on the format we distinguish two types of newspapers, broadsheet and tabloid.

Broadsheet news inform us about important information. They get information from verified sources and they respect the code of ethics. These news were primarily dedicated to political affairs and read by upper classes of people. While tabloid news have been sold on a mass scale to be available for all the people. This type of media is interested in private lives of people well-known in public called celebrities.

The main differences between broadsheets and tabloids can be divided according to their content and visual forms. Because of a tax placed on the number of pages in Britain in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, large formats of newspaper have developed with the aim of saving some money (Wikipedia, 2016). For this reason broadsheets are printed on fullsized newsprint while tabloids are half-sized, so the texts have to be reduced in size. Tabloids use large and colourful pictures and images that can cover majority of the pages, so the texts are shorter. These newspapers need to be eye-catching to be sold on the market. The headlines are written in a big, bold font. On the contrary, broadsheets have longer articles with small headlines and no or limited number of pictures and images. When they use a picture, it is related mainly to important information mentioned in the text and it can be found mainly on the front page or at the side of the corresponding text.

Broadsheets are said to be "serious" or "quality" newspapers. They use clear language and longer complex sentences. They are objective and disinterested, they work with facts and they are more detailed than tabloids. The articles should contain different points of view. They are meaningfully divided into sections and they focus on national and international events (politics and business). On the contrary, tabloids focus on private lives of celebrities, their scandals (e.g.: arrests, possession of drugs, etc.). They are mentioned to be "popular press". They want to provoke emotions in readers. They use shorter sentences, more emotional and colourful language. Tabloid headlines are commonly short and simple but big in size, they are usually dramatic and emotive.

Tabloid and broadsheet newspapers differ in use of language. Tabloids use an informal language, colloquial expressions, slang and contracted forms. To attract readers' attention they use alliteration and puns. While language of broadsheets is more formal. Their texts are longer with factual information and sophisticated and more educated expressions. They prefer using metaphors than puns, their sentences are more complex, use statistics to support their texts (The London School, 2016).

There are also differences between online and printed forms of newspapers. Ordinary journalists have a given time to process gained information and to prepare it for publishing. When it is published you cannot influence and correct anything. The deadline for each edition depends also on the form of newspapers, whether they are published daily or weekly. When the final version is prepared, it goes to the printing company and then it is delivered to newsstands and to customers' homes. By contrast, Internet news are very flexible. Their big advantage is that the information given online can be at any time updated and / or changed. It is standard to give new or changed information (marked by a date of change) at the top of the web page and the older information should not be changed or deleted. Online news enables people to give a feedback on what is written, and that is not possible in the case of printed news.

To conclude, newspapers have been developed with the aim to provide important information to public. The basic functions of newspapers are to get an up-todate information available to the general public, to be responsive to wide range of topics, to react on national and international events from many points of view and to be published at some regular intervals. With the form of publication we have printed and online newspapers. And the last division is to tabloids and broadsheets which differ in the form of processing information, the use of language and the final visual aspect. Among the well-known broadsheets belong The Telegraph, The Times and The Guardian and among the tabloids belong The Daily Mail, The Daily Mirror, The Daily Star and The Sun.

## **3 ANALYSIS**

The aim of the practical part of this work is the analysis of the frequency and quantity of usage of phrasal verbs found in Internet articles. For this work I have compiled a corpus that consists of twenty articles. The articles will be assessed according to different measures. Firstly, verbs are divided into two-word and three-word verbs. The two-word verbs are further classified according to their particle, whether it is an adverb or a preposition, the three-word verbs use both an adverb and a preposition. Secondly, there will be a division based on the need of an object. Then the analysis deals with the most frequently used phrasal verbs in the articles and their number will be compared to the number of other verbs in the texts. The results of the analysis will be recorded in absolute as well as proportional values.

The articles have been randomly chosen from tabloid and broadsheet newspaper websites. A collection of tabloid texts contains ten articles and a collection of broadsheet texts contains eleven articles. While broadsheets are represented by The Telegraph and The Guardian, the tabloids are represented by The Daily Star, The Sun, The Mirror and The Daily Mail. The texts focus on different themes such as science, medicine, crime, traffic, geography, culture, sport, weather, and stories experienced by ordinary lives.

## 3.1 Analysis of tabloid newspapers

In the previous chapter it has been mentioned that tabloid newspapers use fewer sentences in one article than broadsheets. The texts are shorter with less information. The language of tabloids is more informal and it was stated that phrasal verbs are mainly used in informal texts and in spoken language. To calculate the frequency of usage of phrasal verbs it is necessary to know the total number of words in the texts. These figures are shown in the Table 2.

Table 2: Number of phrasal verbs in tabloids

	NUMBER OF PHRASAL	PHRASAL VERBS PER 1,000
NUMBER OF WORDS	VERBS	WORDS OF TEXT
4,894	73	14.91

The collection of eleven tabloid articles contains 4,894 words, only 73 of them are phrasal verbs. There are found 14.91 phrasal verbs per 1,000 words of text.

Table 3 presents the number of all verbs found in the texts which is compared to the number of the phrasal verbs.

 Table 3: Proportion of phrasal verbs to the total number of verbs in tabloids

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VERBS	THE NUMBER OF PHRASAL VERBS	PER CENT
568	73	12.85 %

According to the theoretical part of this work, phrasal verbs are considered to be either two-word verbs or three-word verb. Two-word verbs are further divided by the use of an adverb or a preposition as a particle. Table 4 displays an overview of phrasal verbs in the alphabetical order.

Table 4: Overview of phrasal verbs in tabloids

TWO-WC	TWO-WORD VERBS		
AN ADVERB	AN PREPOSITION	THREE-WORD VERBS	
bring forward	ask for	get on to	
check on	bring to	lead up to	

chill out	charge with	
cut off	charge with	
find out	charge with	
find out	come by	
find out	dote on	
finish off	fall in	
flag up	fall in	
get back	fill with	
give away	fill with	
give away	free from	
go back	get in	
go back	have on	
hack off	insist on	
open up	launch into	
pass away	launch into	
pass away	look at	
pick up	look for	
pick up	look for	
pick up	look to	
play off	move in	
put aside	move in	
put down	opt for	
put through	play with	
slip away	push in	
stretch out	put in	
tail off	put into	

take out	result in	
talk up	rob of	
think out	stand in	
trail off	take over	
turn up	talk about	
wrap up	tie into	
	tie into	
	tie into	
	wait for	

In Table 4 phrasal verbs are divided into three columns. The first column contains verbs that are followed by an adverb, the second column deals with verbs that are followed by a preposition, and the last column includes verbs that are followed by two particles. Several verbs were repeated in the same texts or they occurred in different texts. The table number 5 presents the proportion of these types of phrasal verbs to their total number.

TYPE OF PHRASAL VERBS	NUMBER OF PHRASAL VERBS	PER CENT
Two-word verbs with an adverb	34	46.57 %
Two-word verbs with a preposition	37	50.69 %
Three-word verbs	2	2.74 %

Table 5: Proportion of different types of phrasal verbs in tabloids

It is shown that number of two-word verbs highly exceeds number of three-word verbs. Three-word verbs have only two representatives: *to get on to* and *to lead up to*.

Two-word verbs with adverbs take 46.57 per cent of the total number, while two-word verbs with prepositions (sometimes called prepositional verbs) occupy 50.69 per cent.

Table 6 focuses on the frequency of used particles, some particles are found in the texts only once, but some of them are used more times.

ADVERBS			PREPOSITIONS		
NUMBER OF ADVE	RBS	PER CENT	NUMBER OF PREPOSITIONS		PER CENT
up	9	26.47 %	in	9	22.50 %
down	1	2.94 %	on	4	10.00 %
off	6	17.65 %	at	1	2.50 %
away	5	14.71 %	with	6	15.00 %
forward	1	2.94 %	for	5	12.50 %
aside	1	2.94 %	of	1	2.50 %
out	7	20.59 %	over	1	2.50 %
on	1	2.94 %	into	6	15.00 %
through	1	2.94 %	to	4	10.00 %
back	3	8.82 %	about	1	2.50 %
			from	1	2.50 %
			by	1	2.50 %

#### Table 6: An overview of the particles

The most frequently used adverbs are *up*, *out*, *off* and *away*. The adverb *up* is used in the combination with the verb *pick* three times as well as the adverb *out* is used with the verb *find* also three times. For explaining the meanings of these verbs Longman Dictionary (2000) is used.

to pick up - to lift sth. up with your hands - to collect someone from a place where they are waiting for you - to get or buy sth.

to find out - to get information about sth.

- to discover that someone has done sth. wrong

It is proved that some phrasal verbs with the same form have more different meanings.

The preposition *in* is used nine times and it occupies 22.50 per cent of all prepositions used in phrasal verbs. It is combined with the verbs *fall* as well as *move* two times. Other frequently used prepositions are *with* and *into* that both take 15.00 per cent and preposition *for* occupies 12.50 per cent.

The next division examines which of phrasal verbs from the texts are intransitive and which are transitive. There are three columns of transitive verbs that describe the position of the direct object (DO).

INTRANSITIVE	TRANSITIVE VERBS				
VERBS	DO - after the particle	DO – before the particle	DO – after / before the particle		
chill out	ask for sth. / sb.	bring sb. to	bring forward		
fall in	be charge with sth.	fill sth. with	cut off		
find out	come by sth.	free sb. from	find out		
get back	check on sb. / sth.	get sth. / sb. back	finish off		
get in	dote on sth.	rob sb. / sth. of	get in		
go back	flag up sth.	tie sb. into	give away		
move in	get on to sth.		have on		
open up	insist on sth.		hack off		
pass away	lead up to sth.		open up		
play off	launch into sth.		pass away		
push in	look at sth. / sb.		pick up		
slip away	look for sth. / sb.		put aside		
stand in	look to sb. / sth.		put down		

 Table 7: Transitivity of phrasal verbs in tabloids

stretch out	opt for sth.	put in	
take over	play with sth.	put into	
trail off	result in sth.	put through	
turn up	talk about sth.	stretch out	
	wait for sb.	take out	
		take over	
		talk up	
		think out	
		turn up	
		wrap up	

Table 7 divides phrasal verbs into two groups. One of them includes phrasal verbs that do not take any object. The other group is concerned with phrasal verbs that take the direct object and it shows the possible placing of the direct object, whether it follows or precedes the particle, or whether the object can be found in both positions. Verbs such as *get in, pass away, take over* and *turn up* can occur with the particle before or after the direct objet, or they can stand alone without using the object.

Some base verbs are found more times in the texts, they either use the same particle or they use different particles. For example the verb *to look for* is used two times and the base verb *to look* combines also with particles *at* and *to*. Repeating verbs are presented in the alphabetical order with a basic explanation of their meanings found in Longman Dictionary (2000) and Oxford Dictionary (2000).

BRING to bring forward – to move sth. to an earlier date or time to bring to – to make sb. who is unconscious become conscious again
CHARGE to be charged with – to officially have a particular responsibility or duty
FALL to fall in – to fall on the ground
FILL to fill with – to make sth. full of sth.
FIND to find out – to get information about sth. GET to get back – to return to a place after going somewhere else to get in – to succeed in entering a place to get on to – to start dealing with a problem

GIVE to give away – to give sth. that you do not need to someone

- GO to go back to return to a place where you have been before
- LAUNCH to launch into to suddenly start talking about sth. with enthusiasm
- **LOOK** to look at to read or examine sth. carefully to look for – to try to find someone or sth. to look to – to pay attention to sth.
- MOVE to move in to go towards to someone or sth.
- PASS to pass away to die
- PICK to pick up to lift someone or sth
- PLAY to play off to play last game to decide which one is winner to play with – to keep touching sth. or moving it
- PUT to put aside to stop thinking or worrying about sth. to put down – to criticize someone in an unkind way to put in – to do sth. in a particular way to put into – to use effort or time in order to try sth. to put through – to make someone experience sth. unpleasant
- TAKE to take out to remove sth. from a bag, etc.
- TALKto talk about to speak in order to give information or to express feelingsto talk up to keep saying how good or successful sth. is

TIE to tie up – to connect or to link sth. to sth. else

To conclude, the research has shown that there are 73 phrasal verbs in the tabloid texts. Phrasal verbs take 12.85 per cent of all verbs used in the articles and their number is 14.91 per 1,000 words of text. The collection of multi-word verbs contains 46.57 per cent of two-word verbs followed by the adverb, 50.69 per cent of two-word verbs followed by the preposition and 2.74 per cent of three-word verbs. The particles

*up* and *in* are the most frequently used in the tabloid articles. Frequently base verbs are for example: *to get, to look* and *to put*. Even though some verbs are categorized into both groups (intransitive and transitive), number of transitive verbs exceeds umber of intransitive verbs.

## 3.2 Analysis of broadsheet newspapers

The broadsheet newspapers are described as quality newspapers. They provide important information that is written in detail. Their texts are longer than tabloid texts and more formal language is used. According to the theoretical part, there is a hypothesis that broadsheet newspapers use less phrasal verbs than tabloid newspapers. The analysis will be performed similarly to the analysis of tabloid newspapers. It begins with the calculation of the frequency of phrasal verbs' usage.

 Table 8: The number of phrasal verbs in broadsheets

	NUMBER OF PHRASAL	PHRASAL VERBS PER 1,000	
NUMBER OF WORDS	VERBS	WORDS OF TEXT	
4,758	46	9.67	

The collection of tabloid texts contains ten articles with 4,758 words in total, 9.67 phrasal verbs per 1,000 words of text. This supports the hypothesis that the proportion of phrasal verbs in broadsheets is smaller than the proportion of phrasal verbs in tabloids. The next overview categorises phrasal verbs into two-word verbs that consist of a base verb and an adverb or a preposition and three-word verbs that contain a base verb followed by two particles.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VERBS	THE NUMBER OF PHRASAL VERBS	PER CENT
594	46	7.74 %

Table 9: Proportion of phrasal verbs to the total number of verbs in broadshe	ets
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Table 9 shows that the total number of verbs in broadsheet articles is 594 verbs while the phrasal verbs represent only 7.74 per cent of them.

Table 10: Overview of phrasal verbs in broadsheets

TWO-WORD VERBS		THREE-WORD VERBS	
AN ADVERB	AN PREPOSITION		
act out	awaken in	keep up with	
calm down	base on	keep up with	
carry out	benefit from	keep up with	
carry out	benefit from		
fall through	burn with		
find out	cash in		
get out	come along		
go ahead	depend on		
go back	dial into		
miss out	get over		
miss out	lead to		
run out	move on		
send back	pass on		
set up	plug into		
shoot through	push into		
stand out	remind of		
sign on	result in		

throw out	run for	
take over	run for	
	rub along	
	sign on	
	start on	
	take on	
	think of	

It is seen that phrasal verbs followed by prepositions predominate in the chosen broadsheet texts. Some of them are found repeatedly in the same texts but most of them are found only once. The proportional representation of two and three-word verbs is displayed in Table 11.

 Table 11: Proportion of different types of phrasal verbs in broadsheets

TYPE OF PHRASAL VERBS	NUMBER OF PHRASAL VERBS	PER CENT
Two-word verbs with an adverb	19	41.30 %
Two-word verbs with a preposition	24	52.17 %
Three-word verbs	3	6.52 %

The two-word verbs occupy together almost 94 percent of all phrasal verbs in the broadsheet texts, while three-word verbs are represented only by 6.52 per cent. Only one example of three-word verbs was found, which is repeated three times. The verb is *to keep up with* and its meaning is explained below (Oxford Dictionary).

To keep up with – to move, to make a progress

- to continue to be in contact with sb.

-to learn about or be aware of the news

The next part of the analysis deals with calculating proportion of different particles found in the texts.

ADVERBS		PREPOSITIONS			
NUMBER OF ADVERBS		PER CENT	NUMBER OF PREPOSITIONS		PER CENT
up	4	18.18 %	in	3	11.11 %
down	1	4.55 %	on	7	25.93 %
out	10	45.45 %	with	4	14.81 %
through	2	9.09 %	for	2	7.41 %
back	2	9.09 %	from	2	7.41 %
ahead	1	4.55 %	of	2	7.41 %
on	1	4.55 %	over	1	3.70 %
over	1	4.55 %	into	3	11.11 %
			to	1	3.70 %
			along	2	7.41 %

Table 12: An overview of the particles in broadsheets

The adverb *out* is used ten times and it represents 45.45 per cent of all adverbs used to form phrasal verbs. It is connected to the verbs *act*, *carry*, *find*, *get*, *miss*, *run*, *stand* and *throw*.

The preposition *on* can be find in seven phrasal verbs. Both prepositions *on* and *with* belong to the most frequently used prepositions in broadsheets.

Another grammatical feature of verbs is the transitivity. Verbs that do not take any direct object are categorized into the first column. Verbs that take the direct object are found in the second column.

INTRANSITIVE	TRANSITIVE VERBS		
VERBS	DO - after the particle	DO – before the particle	DO – after / before the particle
calm down	benefit from sth.	awaken sth. in sb.	act out
come along	burn with sth.	base sth. on	calm down
fall through	depend on sth. / sb.	get sth. / sb. out	carry out
find out	dial into sth.	keep up with sb.	cash in
get out	go back sth.	push sb. into sth.	find out
go ahead	lead to sth.	remind sb. of	get over
go back	result in sth.		miss out
miss out	run for sth.		move on
move on	think of sth. / sb.		pass on
pass on			plug into
rub along			run out
run out			send back
set up			set up
shoot through			sign on
sign on			start on
stand out			take on
take over			take over
			throw out

 Table 13: Transitivity of phrasal verbs in broadsheets

Similarly to the previous chapter, some phrasal verbs are used in the articles more times. From the total number of 46 phrasal verbs, 9 verbs can be used either as intransitive verbs or as transitive verbs whose particle can come before or after the direct object.

Some base verbs occur in the articles more often than others. To understand their meanings, there is an overview of them with their explanation. Their meanings were found in Longman Dictionary (2000) and Oxford Dictionary (2000).

BENEFIT to benefit from – to receive an advantage because

CARRY to carry out – to do sth. that you have organised or planned

- GET to get out to leave an unpleasant situation to get over – to begin to feel better after a shock
- GO to go ahead to happen, to be done to go back – to return to a place
- KEEP to keep up with to make a progress or increase at the same rate as sth.
- MISS to miss out to fail to include sth.
- **RUN** to run for to try to be elected to a particular position to run out – if sth. runs out, it is used up or finished
- SIGN to sign on -to arrange for someone to sign a contract
- TAKE to take on to accept a responsibility to take over – to start being responsible for sth.

### 3.3 Comparison and conclusion

The analysis preforms five categories in which tabloid and broadsheet newspapers are compared. For this research, the corpus of twenty-one Internet articles was compiled. The list of these articles is found in the bibliography.

At first, the number of phrasal verbs per 1,000 words of text was calculated. The result seems to prove the initial hypothesis that tabloids use more phrasal verbs than broadsheets. The second category presents proportion of phrasal verbs to the total number of verbs. Phrasal verbs in tabloid comprise 12.85 per cent of all verbs while it is only 7.74 per cent in broadsheets. The analysis provided overview of all phrasal verbs found in the articles.

The third category organizes phrasal verbs into two-word verbs followed by an adverb, followed by a preposition and three-word verbs. Two-word verbs in tabloids

take 97.26 per cent of all phrasal verbs similarly to broadsheets, where they take 93.48 per cent. There were found only two representatives of three-word phrasal verbs in tabloids and three representatives in broadsheets.

Other category divides verbs according to the type of the particle, whether they use an adverb or a preposition. In these texts the number of different prepositions is bigger than the number of different adverbs. Some of these particles are used with the same base verb more times. Others are used with different base verbs.

The last category depends on the use of the direct object. Verbs that do not take any direct object are called intransitive verbs. Verbs that take the object are further divided according to the position of the direct object. Some verbs occur in both sections, intransitive and transitive, for example *get in, find out, take over* and *turn up*. In tabloids as well as in broadsheets, the object comes after the particle in more cases than it comes before the particle. The object can come before or after the particle in 23 tabloid phrasal verbs and in 18 broadsheet phrasal verbs.

### **4** CONCLUSION

The main aim of this bachelor thesis was to explore the usage of phrasal verbs in the Internet news. For the research the basic terms as verbs, phrasal verbs and their classification, the Internet, newspapers and their types are described.

This thesis was divided into two main parts, theoretical and practical. In the theoretical part, there are firstly characterized phrasal verbs. There are many examples of phrasal verbs used in sentences that should contribute to understanding of this topic. Secondly, a brief history of the Internet and newspapers is mentioned. In this part two types of newspapers are defined, tabloid and broadsheet their differences in graphical form, content and language are described.

The practical part deals with the comparative analysis of phrasal verbs found in tabloid and broadsheet Internet news. The number of phrasal verbs per 1,000 words of text, proportion of phrasal verbs to the total number of verbs and proportion of the use of different particles are calculated. Afterwards, phrasal verbs are divided into two categories according to the use of particle and according to the use and placement of the direct object. There is an explanation of phrasal verbs that occur in texts repeatedly. The last subchapter of this part contains the summary of the data obtained in the analysis

To conclude, phrasal verbs are frequently used in tabloid Internet news. The research has shown that the number of two-word verbs highly exceeds the number of three-word verbs in tabloid as well as in broadsheet texts. Other similarity is that in both types of newspapers there is a low number of transitive verbs in which the direct object precedes the particle. Although these types are different in the content and language, the analysis presents also some similarities.

## Resumé

Hlavním cílem této bakalářské práce bylo porovnat užití frázových sloves v bulvárních a seriózních internetových článcích. V teoretické části jsou uvedeny základní pojmy jako frázová slovesa a jejich dělení, internet a dva typy novinových článků, bulvární a seriózní. Tyto články se liší jak vizuální podobou, tak obsahem a jazykem zpracování. Pro praktickou část byl vypracován korpus dvaceti jedna internetových článků, které byly zpracovány do přehledných tabulek. Následně byla provedena analýza četnosti použití frázových sloves v bulvárních a seriózních

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# **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

- DO direct object
- IO indirect object
- O object
- p. page
- PV phrasal verb
- S subject
- sth. something
- sb. somebody
- V verb

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ANOTACE

Název práce:	Frázová slovesa v internetových zprávách
Název v angličtině:	Phrasal Verbs in Internet News
Anotace práce:	Bakalářská práce se zabývá frázovými slovesy v internetových článcích. V teoretické části je uvedeno rozdělení frázových sloves. Praktická část obsahuje analýzu bulvárních a seriózních internetových článků. Cílem bylo porovnání použití těchto sloves v internetových článcích.
Klíčová slova:	Anglická gramatika, frázová slovesa, tranzitivita, zprávy, internet.
Anotace v angličtině:	My bachelor thesis deals with phrasal verbs in the Internet articles. In the theoretical part, there is a classification of phrasal verbs. The practical part contains analysis of tabloid and broadsheet Internet news. The aim was comparison of the frequency of these verbs.
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